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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/085,343	02/28/2002	Jeffrey J. Gratz	273.018	1365

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EXAMINER

MAI, TRI M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3727

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/085,343

Applicant(s)

GRATZ, JEFFREY J.

Examiner

Tri M. Mai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-10 and 13-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-10 and 13-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the first and second side object receiving cradle overlap and separated by a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, and 15 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 6, 7, 9-11, 14, and 20 of copending Application No. 09/836769. Although the conflicting claims are not

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identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide third ribs in claim 6 to provide additional holding structures. Furthermore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide additional depressions and ribs in claims 9 to provide additional holding structures.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The original disclosure does not teach specificity of the first and second side object receiving cradle overlap and separated by a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member. This is a new matter rejection.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is unclear what is meant by “overlap and separated by a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member”. The specification does not teach relationship. Furthermore, it is noted that “overlap and separated” seems to contradict each other. It seems impossible for something to overlap and separated at the same time.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Emery (836769). Emery teaches 1st, and 2nd set of ribs projecting from the first side of the

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elongated member each rib is at portion 70 in Emery, and 1st and second ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member at portions 52. Note there are receiving cradles between the ribs as shown in Fig. 3.

With respect to the new limitation, it is submitted that the object receiving cradle on the first side and the object receiving cradle on the second side overlap at a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member, i.e., the cradle on the first side separate from the second cradle by the thickness at the slanted wall extending between the ribs on the first side and the ribs on the second sides, the midpoint of this wall would serve as a datum for the first cradle and the second cradle, and the opposite cradles are separated by the thickness of the wall as claimed. See notes ~~in co-pending application~~.

6. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams (2808189). Williams teaches 1st, and 2nd set of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member each rib is at portion 107, and 1st and second ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member at portions 115. See drawings. With respect to the object receiving cradle, it is noted that the depressions and projections in Williams can receive small objects. All set forth in the claims are two sets of projections and a plurality of depressions. These structures are clearly taught in Williams.

With respect to the new limitation, it is submitted that the object receiving cradle on the first side and the object receiving cradle on the second side overlap at a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member, i.e., the cradle on the first side separate from the second cradle by the thickness wall extending between the ribs on the first side and the ribs on the second sides.

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7. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As best understood view of the drawing objections and 112 matters above, either Williams and Emery teaches the object receiving cradle on the first side and the object receiving cradle on the second side overlap at a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member as set forth above i.e., the cradle on the first side separate from the second cradle by the thickness wall extending between the ribs on the first side and the ribs on the second sides.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tri M. Mai whose telephone number is (571)272-4541. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lee W Young can be reached on (571)272-4549. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tri M. Mai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3727



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